

HOUSE BILL 179

By Cooper B

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
Chapter 2, Part 4, relative to foster care.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 2, Part 4, is amended by
adding the following as a new section:

37-2-417. A child in foster care who is seventeen (17) years of age may petition
a court for continuation of foster care to age nineteen (19). The child may petition
specifically for transitional services relating to educational or vocational programs,
housing, case planning and other relevant services. The court shall consider factors that
could indicate a special need for such services, including, but not limited to, a disability
or the completion of high school. The court may grant the petition if it determines that
the child would substantially benefit from such services and that such services are
available from the department of children's services. The department shall provide such
services as provided for by the annual general appropriations act.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.